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Docket No. F-8590

Ser. No. 10/524,622

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

1. A method of producing an immersion nozzle for continuous casting which has a zirconia-graphite ~~refractory~~ refractories applied to a powder-line portion hereof thereof[,] and a CaO containing compound applied to at least an inner hole portion, ~~said method~~ comprising:

burning after integrally molding, wherein

~~—said zirconia-graphite refractories, and a compound applied to at least an inner hole portion of said immersion nozzle;~~ said compound includes including 10 mass% or more of clinker particles, each containing CaO as a mineral phase, and wherein at least some of said clinker particles are treated with an anti-hydration treatment where mineral phase CaO the surface of at least a part of said clinker particles is subjected to an anti-hydration treatment: exposed to an outside of said clinker particles is converted to CaCO₃.

2. (Cancelled).